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## June 2009

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### Inside this issue

Laptops Updated.....	1
Next Gen Mobile Brodband.....	1
Apple Enterprise Seminar.....	1
BAC June Meeting.....	1
Mac Tip.....	2
double Twist.....	2
Snow Leopard.....	2
Software Updates.....	3
Laptops Updated cont'd.....	4
Safari 4.0 in the Wild.....	4
iPhone 3G S.....	4
iPhone 3G S cont'd.....	5
Open Office.....	5
Display Ads.....	6

## Apple Updates Laptop Line and Drops Prices

Apple updated its 13" aluminum MacBook, rebranding the model as part of its MacBook Pro line.

The new model offers the same non-user-replaceable battery found in the 17" MacBook Pro and adds a FireWire 800 port and an SD card slot.

Pricing begins at \$1199, a \$100 drop over the previous entry-level price point, and all models include backlit keyboard.

The new 13-inch MacBook Pro is a significant upgrade at a lower price than the original aluminum MacBook it replaces.

With the same sleek and durable design popular with consumers, students and professionals, all 13-inch MacBook Pro models now include a seven hour built-in battery, an SD card slot, a FireWire 800 port (hallelujah), an illuminated keyboard and an improved LED-backlit display with 60 percent greater color gamut.

Hard drive and RAM options for the 13" notebook are the same as in the new 15" MacBook Pro, topping out at 500 GB and 8 GB respectively. The new MacBook models offer the following price points and features:

- \$1199. 13" MacBook Pro. 2.26GHz. 2GB RAM, NVIDIA GeForce 9400. 160GB HD. Firewire
- \$1499. 13" MacBook Pro. 2.53GHz. 4GB RAM, NVIDIA GeForce 9400. 250GB HD. Firewire


Apple is now reserving the "MacBook" name for the white polycarbonate model.

*continued on page 4*

## 4G Next Gen Mobile Broadband Trials Start

Ericsson and TeliaSonera have flipped the switch on the world's first commercial Long Term Evolution cell site in Stockholm, Sweden.

The site will be part of a full-scale deployment that's scheduled for next year, and it's a milestone for the next generation of mobile broadband.

LTE networks have shown a peak performance of 160 Mbps, which could enable a host of new mobile services like high-definition video streaming, Internet television, and mobile video. While the average speeds likely will be lower, LTE networks still blow away modern 3G networks, which generally top out at about 7.2 Mbps. 

[www.teliasonera.com](http://www.teliasonera.com)



## BAC June Meeting

The June meeting of the Birmingham Apple Core will begin at 10:00 am on June 13th and the topic will be "Toast" a Roxio software product that burns CDs and DVDs. The presentation will be by Chris Perry of Perry Computers in Homewood.

Arrive early and enjoy coffee, doughnuts and enlightening discussions.

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For Sale/Wanted

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Do you have computer related items for sale or is there an item that you would like to purchase?

We will list the item in this space free of charge to current members.

Send information by the 25th of each month to the editor at: henryw@bellsouth.net.

Positions of Treasurer and Membership Chair are still desperately needed for BAC Board

Mac TIP

Sneak a Peek at a Deleted File

Excerpted from Mac OS X 10.5 Leopard: Peachpit Learning Series by Robin Williams

If you've done a Spotlight search in Time Machine to find a lost or deleted file, you could end up trawling through dozens of Finder windows to find what you need. To get a quick look at a file before taking the time to restore and open it, make sure that the item listing is highlighted in the Finder window, and then tap the spacebar to show a magnified Quick Look. To close the Quick Look preview, tap the spacebar again, or click the Close button in the upper-left corner of the Quick Look window. 🍏

Don't forget our new training CDs for Leopard MAC OS X 10.5.

Also we still have the OS X 10.4 "Tiger" training CDs available as well.

Contact Luther Fuller for more information or go to our website. 🍏

double Twist Media Utility

double Twist is an open source universal media utility for PC and Mac.

It allows you to load pictures, movies, audio on your mobile devices.

It is still in development and has a limited number of devices it supports. As development continues bugs and the number of compatible devices should increase.

doubleTwist Corporation was founded in Oslo, Norway by Monique Farantzos and Jon Lech Johansen (aka DVD Jon) and is headquartered in San Francisco. We are backed by several prominent venture capital firms and individual investors.

The doubleTwist team is distributed between San Francisco and Tokyo, and consists of people from eight countries, speaking more than seven different languages, from Japanese to Dutch. We collectively own more than 200 gadgets and obsessively test every single one of

them with doubleTwist while sending stuff to each other and to our friends and families around the world.

We started doubleTwist because we were disappointed by the quality of software applications offered by the major device manufacturers.

Our vision is simple: to create a unifying media platform that connects consumers with all their media and all their devices, regardless of whether they are online or offline.

We feel that just like you don't use a different browser for every web site you visit (Firefox to read the NY Times, IE to stream Hulu, Chrome to browse YouTube, etc) you shouldn't have to use iTunes for Apple products, Nokia software for Nokia phones, Sony software for Sony products, etc. The typical household today has many such devices and there is a need for a simple and powerful software that connects them.

We do not sacrifice ease of use as we let you do more. 🍏

www.doubletwist.com



Snow Leopard Coming in September

Low Upgrade Price for Current Leopard Users and Bundles for Tiger Users.

Apple announced that Mac OS X 10.6 Snow Leopard will launch in September and will be priced at only \$29 for current OS X 10.5 Leopard users. Alternatively, a \$49 family pack will also be available. Meanwhile, Tiger users with Intel machines will be able to purchase a Mac Box Set containing Snow Leopard, iLife '09, and iWork '09 for \$169 for a single license or \$229 for a family pack. 🍏

## SOFTWARE UPDATES

**iTunes 8.2** now supports iPhone or iPod touch with the iPhone 3.0 Software Update. iTunes 8.2 also includes many accessibility improvements and bug fixes.

For information on the security content of this update, please visit this website: <http://support.apple.com/kb/HT1222>

**QuickTime 7.6.2** includes changes that increase reliability, improve compatibility and enhance security. This release is recommended for all QuickTime 7 users.

For detailed information on this update, please visit this website: <http://support.apple.com/kb/HT3520>.

**AirPort Utility 5.4.2** for both Mac (16.86 MB) and Windows (10.92 MB). The update offers several fixes to Apple's software for managing the AirPort Express Base Station, the AirPort Extreme Base Station, and Time Capsule. Issues addressed include:

- An issue causing AirPort Utility to be unable to read certain AirPort wireless device configurations.
- An issue causing AirPort Utility to sometimes be unable to discover an AirPort wireless device when Back To My Mac is enabled.
- An issue causing AirPort Utility to sometimes be unable to download firmware.
- An issue causing AirPort Utility to not correctly import Access Control Lists created in AirPort Admin Utility 4.x
- Added the ability in AirPort Utility to show all wireless passwords in the "Equivalent Network Password" sheet.

The Mac version requires OS X 10.4 or later, while the Windows version requires Vista or XP Pro SP2 or better.

- **iLife Support 9.0.3** (55.1 MB) addresses several minor issues and offers several general improvements to the entire iLife suite of applications.

This update addresses general compatibility issues, improves overall stability for the Media Browser, and fixes a number of other minor issues. The issues addressed include:

- Resolved memory leaks for improved performance of the Media Browser
- Corrected issues to display custom folders when added to the Media Browser
- Maintained correct image dates when importing from iPhoto to Aperture

The update is recommended for all users of Aperture 2, iLife '09 and iWork '09, and requires OS X 10.5.6 or later.

- **iDVD 7.0.4** (27.5 MB) "addresses general compatibility issues and fixes an issue where iDVD is unable to add title/comment to an image in the image details list." The update is recommended for all users of iDVD 7 and requires OS X

10.5.6 or later.

- **iMovie 8.0.3** (35.56 MB) addresses several minor issues and improves general compatibility and stability.

This update addresses general compatibility issues, improved overall stability and fixes a number of other minor issues. The issues addressed include:

- Support for 720p AVCHD Lite cameras and camcorders
- Deleting a beat marker no longer modifies the project duration
- Video Effects palette now uses the correct thumbnail for still images

The update is recommended for all users of iMovie '09 and requires OS X 10.5.6 or later.

- **iPhoto 8.0.3 Update** (96 MB) also addresses several minor issues and improves general compatibility and stability.

This update addresses general compatibility, improves overall stability and fixes a number of issues in the following areas of the application:

- Publishing to MobileMe, Facebook, and Flickr
- Slideshow playback
- Location (GPS) info embedded in emailed photos and exported JPEGs

The update is recommended for all users of iPhoto 8 and requires OS X 10.5.6 or later.

- **Digital Camera RAW Compatibility Update 2.6** (3.9 MB) adds RAW image support to Aperture and iPhoto for the following digital cameras: Canon EOS 500D, Canon Rebel T1i, Canon EOS Kiss Digital X3, Nikon D5000, and Olympus E-30.

**iWork '09 9.0.2** (42.8 MB) addresses issues with saving documents and Keynote.

This update improves reliability when saving some iWork documents and when playing some presentations more than once per Keynote session.

The update requires iWork '09 and OS X 10.4.11 or 10.5.6 or later.

**MacBook Pro SMC Firmware Update 1.3** (833 KB) addresses an issue with fan behavior on 15-inch and 17-inch MacBook Pros.

This SMC Firmware update adjusts the fan behavior in MacBook Pro systems (15-inch and 17-inch) when running under high workload conditions. The update requires OS X 10.4.11 or 10.5.7, and Apple provides additional instructions for installing the update. 🍏

## Laptop Updates *cont'd from page 1*

A revamped version of the 15" MacBook Pro was released as well. The new model incorporates the same non-user-replaceable battery found in the 17" MacBook Pro and offers up to seven hours of runtime and up to 1000 charge cycles. Apple has also replaced the ExpressCard slot found in the previous model with an SD card slot and improved the display quality. Pricing starts at \$1699, a \$300 reduction from the previous entry-level model, and the new models are shipping today.

Three standard 15" MacBook Pro configurations are offered:

- \$1699. 2.53 GHz, 4 GB RAM. NVIDIA GeForce 9400M, 250GB HD. Firewire. (Drops the 9600 graphic processor)
- \$1999. 2.66 GHz, 4 GB RAM. NVIDIA GeForce GT. 320GB HD. Firewire.
- \$2299. 2.8 GHz, 4 GB RAM. NVIDIA GeForce GT . 500 GB HD. Firewire.

Additional options include:

- Up to 3.06 GHz Core 2 Duo
- Up to 8 GB RAM
- Up to 500 GB HDD or 256 GB SSD

Apple also announced minor spec updates to the 17" MacBook Pro today and dropped the entry-level price to \$2499 from \$2799.

The new entry-level 17" MacBook Pro offers 2.8 GHz processor and a 500 GB hard drive.

The new 17" model also retains the ExpressCard slot and begins shipping today. 🍏

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## Apple Releases Safari 4—The World's Fastest & Most Innovative Browser

Apple® today released Safari® 4, the world's fastest and most innovative web browser. Available for Mac® and Windows PCs and introduced as a beta in February of this year, Safari 4 features the Nitro engine which runs JavaScript up to 4.5 times faster than Safari 3.\* Safari 4 makes browsing more intuitive and enjoyable with innovative features, such as Top Sites, Full History Search and Cover Flow®, and support for modern web standards like HTML 5 and advanced CSS Effects.

"The successful beta release helped us fine tune Safari 4 into an even better, faster version that customers are going to love," said Philip Schiller, Apple's senior vice president of Worldwide Product Marketing. "Safari is enjoyed by 70 million users worldwide and with its blazing fast speed, innovative features and support for modern web standards, it's the best browser on any platform."

Safari 4 is built on the world's most advanced browser

technologies including the new Nitro JavaScript engine that executes JavaScript nearly eight times faster than IE 8 and more than four times faster than Firefox 3. Safari quickly loads HTML web pages more than three times faster than IE 8 and three times faster than Firefox 3.\*

Starting with the development of the open source WebKit browser engine, Apple has been leading the industry in defining and implementing innovative web standards. Safari 4 includes HTML 5 support for offline technologies and support for advanced CSS Effects, enabling an entirely new class of web applications that feature rich media, graphics and fonts. Safari 4 is the first browser to pass the Web Standards Project's Acid3 test, which examines how well a browser adheres to CSS, JavaScript, XML and SVG standards that are specifically designed for dynamic web applications.

Safari 4 includes Top Sites, for an incredible visual preview of frequently visited and favorite pages; Full History Search, to search through titles, web addresses and the complete text of recently viewed pages; and Cover Flow, to easily flip through web history or bookmarks. Other innovative features include Smart Address Fields for automatically completing web addresses from an easy to read list of suggestions; Search Fields, to fine tune searches with recommendations from Google Suggest or a list of recent searches; and Full Page Zoom, for a closer look at any website without degrading the quality of the site's layout and text.

In Mac OS® X Snow Leopard™, available later this year, Safari runs as a 64-bit application, boosting the performance of the Nitro JavaScript engine by up to 50 percent.\*\* Snow Leopard makes Safari more resistant to crashes by running plug-ins in a separate process, so even if a plug-in crashes, Safari continues to run and the user simply has to reload the affected page.

Pricing & Availability

Safari 4 is available for both Mac OS X and Windows as a free download at [www.apple.com/safari](http://www.apple.com/safari). Safari 4 for Mac OS X requires Mac OS X Leopard® v10.5.7 or Mac OS X Tiger® v10.4.11 and Security Update 2009-002, a minimum 256MB of memory and is designed to run on any Intel-based Mac or a Mac with a PowerPC G5, G4 or G3 processor and built-in FireWire® 🍏

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## iPhone 3GS Debut at WWDC

Apple on Monday unveiled a new version of the iPhone. Dubbed the iPhone 3G S, the latest version of Apple's popular smartphone promises to launch applications and run software faster than the previous model, as well as take advantage of faster cellular networks. It debuts in the U.S. on June 19, two days after the iPhone 3.0 software update arrives.

*continued on page 5*

## iPhone 3G S *cont'd from page 4*

“The ‘S’ stands for speed,” Phil Schiller, Apple’s senior vice president of worldwide product marketing, told Worldwide Developers Conference attendees during Monday’s conference-opening keynote.

While Apple is loath to discuss technical specifications of iPhones, the technical message here is clear: the iPhone 3G S is faster at least in part because it’s powered by a faster processor, has more available onboard memory, and perhaps features improved display circuitry.

The iPhone 3G S can also take advantage of 7.2 Mbps HS-DPA, a faster cellular networking format that’s becoming available in some countries, including the U.S.

For new and qualifying AT&T customers, the new iPhone will sell for \$199 for the 16GB version and \$299 for a 32GB model. Apple is also cutting the price on the current iPhone 3G to \$99 for the 8GB phone. However, people who bought the iPhone 3G last year will discover that the cost to upgrade to this new model will be higher. Because AT&T subsidizes the purchase of iPhones and amortizes those costs over a two-year contract commitment period, many existing iPhone users will need to pay higher prices, which can vary based on each person’s individual contract standing with AT&T.

Physically, the iPhone 3G S is almost identical to the previous iPhone 3G model. The only exterior differences are painfully subtle: the “fine print” writing on the back of the phone is now color-matched to the silver Apple logo, and the screen is covered with a new oil-resistant coating.

But there are changes on the inside. The new phone offers a brand-new camera that lets you control the focus either by tapping on the screen or using the autofocus feature. In addition, the iPhone’s new camera also captures standard-definition video.

The iPhone 3G S also comes with Apple’s new standard for headphones, previously found in the second-generation iPod touch, fourth-generation iPod nano, and fourth-generation iPod shuffle. This set of headphones includes a microphone, a clicker, and volume controls.

Holding down the clicker — or, if you’re not using headphones, the iPhone 3G S’s Home button — activates the phone’s new Voice Control feature, which allows users to speak commands for applications on the phone, including dialing contacts and playing music. Accessibility improvements on the iPhone 3G S include VoiceOver support for reading to users and the ability to zoom in on the phone’s display for larger icons.

Enterprise users get a requested feature in the form of hardware encryption. For anyone using an Exchange service or the Find Your iPhone feature in the iPhone 3.0 software update, remote wipe is instantaneous and backups are encrypt-

ed whenever hardware encryption is enabled.

Apple promises improved battery life with the iPhone 3G S. The new phone offers nine hours of Internet access on Wi-Fi, 10 hours of video, 30 hours of audio playback, and 12 hours of 2G talk time. The five hours of 3G talk time on the new model is consistent with the estimated talk time of the previous iPhone 3G.

In keeping with Apple’s ongoing push to tout the environmental friendliness of its products, the company noted that it reduced packaging for the phone by 23 percent. The iPhone 3G S also features arsenic-free glass and a mercury-free LCD; the phone is also free of brominated flame retardant (BFR) and PVC. 🍏

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## OpenOffice.org Updated With New Look

Rodney Gedda, Computerworld Australia

The first major release of the 3.0 series of open source office suite OpenOffice.org, version 3.1, is now available with big improvements in usability and the user interface.

OpenOffice.org now has anti-aliasing making graphics look “smoother” on screen and dragging objects now displays a “shadow” of the object, rather of a dotted outline.

General text formatting improvements include “overlining” in addition to regular underlining, subtle highlighting of background text and better grammar checker integration.

The OpenOffice.org spreadsheet, Calc, can now rename sheets with a double-click, the zoom slider control arrives, improved sorting of cells, more functions for statistical analysis, and formula hot hints which keeps the syntax of a formula displayed next to the cell as you type.

Calc has had performance “bottlenecks” removed, resulting in “dramatic” performance improvements, according to the project.

The charting application, Chart can now position axes with better flexibility and missing data points can be managed.

For database developers, Base adds SQL syntax highlighting and macro support for creating database applications.

“This is an important enhancement for people wishing to create complete ‘packaged applications’ in Base,” according to OpenOffice.org.

For people collaborating on documents version 3.1 has improved file locking to prevent people accidentally overwriting other people’s changes, and it is now possible for many document editors to have a structured conversation through comments by right-clicking on a Comment and selecting “Reply”.

The Search facility now also searches the text of comments.

OpenOffice.org version 3.1 is cross-platform and can be downloaded from the Web site. 🍏

[www.openoffice.org](http://www.openoffice.org)



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## PERRY COMPUTER SPECIALS OF THE MONTH

**MACBOOK 13IN 2.4GHZ C2D/2G/160GB/SD/WHITE Normal price \$1299.00 now \$1050.00**

**Leica Camera C-Lux 3 \$100.00 Rebate ends February 31, 2009**

**Leica Camera D-Lux 4 \$150.00 Rebate ends February 31, 2009**

**Leica Camera M8 \$1500.00 Rebate ends February 31, 2009**

**Leica Lens For M8 Some have a \$300.00 rebate ends February 31, 2009**

**Some iPods are on sale.**

**Also, Meade telescopes are in stock.**



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*Attend the BAC  
Monthly Meeting*

Be sure to check your mailing label for your BAC renewal month.  
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